

SIERRA CLUB BULLETIN

VOLUME 30 • NUMBER 5



OCTOBER • 1945

Published bimonthly by the Sierra Club, 220 Bush Street, San Francisco 4, California. Annual dues are \$4.00 (first year \$8.00), of which \$1.00 is for subscription to Sierra Club Bulletin. Entered as second-class matter at Post Office, San Francisco, under Act of March 3, 1879.

Contributions on subjects of interest to Sierra Club members are welcome, and should be sent to the Editorial Board.

Francis P. Farquhar, *Editor*; Harriet T. Parsons, *Associate Editor*; Barbara Bedayn, David R. Brower, Weldon F. Heald, Charlotte E. Mauk, Marion R. Parsons, Blanche Stallings.

Old Tradition To Be Revived

The popular tradition of the Sierra Club Annual Banquet will be brought back again this year. Following the meeting of the Board of Directors on December 1, the dinner and dance will be held that evening in the Crystal Room of the Whitcomb Hotel, San Francisco.

Plans include a reception from six to seven, dinner at seven, motion pictures and slides while the main room is being cleared, and then dancing until 1 A.M.

Reservations should be made through the Sierra Club office as soon as possible. The price per person is \$3.50.

It is hoped that, in spite of transportation and accommodation difficulties, members from far as well as near will be able to attend.

Whom Should The Parks Profit?

Although the Sierra Club as a whole concerns itself with the general problems of all national parks, its members cannot help feeling

a particular interest in Yosemite. Such partiality is easily understood—after all, the Sierra Club came into being in order to further the cause of Yosemite, and that beloved Valley has probably been visited more frequently by a greater number of members than any other national park.

With such a personal interest, then, thoughtful members of the Sierra Club are beginning to ask themselves, "What is happening to the atmosphere of Yosemite?" "Is it appropriate that the public services offered in Yosemite Valley are taking on a stronger and stronger 'resort' air?" and "What can be done about it?"

What, after all, does a visitor to Yosemite seek? And what should he find? Is it more reasonable to assume that he will come to this famed beauty spot because he wants to see for himself the cliffs and falls and meadows so often pictured in the magazines and travel folders, or because he has heard that a dance band plays nightly at a "rustic" pavilion? Are his understanding of the Valley and his appreciation of the park more likely to be furthered by a vaudeville-type entertainment complete with musical trio and magician, or by informal informative talks and interesting slides and motion pictures? Is he going to sense the spirit of this national park—and through it, all the others—more completely by means of recreational activities appropriate to the surroundings or by means of an imitation of those of some seaside resort town?

Perhaps these questions boil down to one other: can the policies for the activities in a Yosemite or a Yellowstone or a Grand Canyon be determined better by (a) the National Park Service, set up for the purpose of aiding the public to profit by their own possession, or (b) a concessionaire admittedly (and understandably) concerned with his own profit?

Let us examine the background from which such questions may arise. The simple history of the concessions in the national parks is something like this: early visitors to the regions which have become national parks were

people capable of traveling and living under relatively primitive conditions—"on their own." Later, it was considered desirable to set up hotel and restaurant accommodations for the non-campers and food supply centers for those who preferred to camp, so that more people should be able to visit and enjoy the parks in comfort and at moderate expense. Concessions for such services were let out to operators—individuals or corporations. Although the operators' policies may have been, at first, closely parallel to those of the Park Service, it is not unnatural that they should have shown, lately, considerable divergence. It is not surprising that the operating companies should tend to offer whatever *they believe* is going to attract more business, with diminishing regard for its suitability to their supposed purpose or its benefit to the general public.

And so we find a growing trend *away* from simplicity of accommodation and from activities designed to aid in the visitor's understanding of the park, and *toward* an artificial type of recreation and entertainment. An atmosphere is built up which tends to obscure rather than to reveal the true significance of the natural scene.

"Well," one may ask, "does that do any harm? The Valley's still there, isn't it? You can still travel the trails and gaze at the cliffs, can't you?"

True enough. If there's room in the Valley for you.

But after all, hotel accommodations and campground space are limited; the time may be not far off when you can't get in. Then

there will be a very real problem whose significance must even now be apparent: there may be a great number of people brought to Yosemite by the *artificial* attractions rather than by the *natural* features, and a great many more unable to visit the Valley because of the overcrowding. Granted that anyone coming into Yosemite for any reason whatever cannot fail to feel something of its spirit, would it be right to deprive others, more appreciative of those true values, of the opportunity to enjoy them?

There is no simple answer to the question. But it is quite possible that thoughtful anticipation of the problem may make the question unnecessary.

Moreover, can we say surely that the prevalence of inappropriate activities does *not* interfere with the pleasure of the visitor who senses the underlying spirit of the park?

The probability is greater that the Park Service (which need not be dominated in its thinking by the profit motive) rather than a concessionaire, can make a sound and just long-range program. Cannot a way be found whereby the Park Service may determine the policies to be carried out in park operations, and still permit the operators to expect a reasonable return on their investment and efforts? Cannot the people—we citizens—who own the parks receive greater benefits from them? It should be possible (and also profitable) to establish services which can truly benefit the public as well as the operators.

Let's demand it!

C.E.M.

Directors Convene at Special Meeting

A special meeting of the Board of Directors of the Sierra Club was held on October 6, 1945, in the Assembly Room in the Mills Tower, San Francisco, for the purpose of discussing a controversy over the relations be-

tween the Southern California Chapter Executive Committee and the Ski Mountaineer Section. The meeting was called to order by President McDuffie at 10:00 A.M., with all members of the Board present. Arthur H.

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Blake, Chairman of the Sierra Club Lodge Committee, attended the meeting, and the following were also present by special invitation: James T. Vickrey, Chairman of the Southern California Chapter of the Sierra Club, Pauline E. Hubbard and Robert F. MacConaghy; Nathan C. Clark, Chairman of the Ski Mountaineers Section of the Southern California Chapter, Lt. Comdr. Lewis F. Clark, and Lt. W. N. Davies.

Statements were made by the representatives of the Chapter and of the Ski Mountaineers, whereupon the following resolution was unanimously approved by the Board:

The Board of Directors of the Sierra Club, having convened on October 6, 1945, in a special session called by the President as a result of action by the Executive Committee authorizing the same, has given careful consideration to the merits of the controversy which has arisen between the Southern California Chapter of the Sierra Club and the Ski Mountaineers Section, regarding the respective jurisdictions of these two bodies, makes the following findings and arrives at the following conclusions:

The Southern California Chapter of the Sierra Club is a local chapter of the Club functioning in the Los Angeles area of the State and is authorized by the Club's By-Laws to exercise authority over and foster local activities which are in harmony with the Club's purposes and subject to the By-Laws and Charter provisions of the main Club.

The Ski Mountaineers originally consisted of an independent group of individuals interested in skiing in Southern California, having no direct connection with the Sierra Club though many of the original group were members of the Sierra Club. Desiring to lease from the U. S. Forest Service sites for proposed ski huts and finding that the backing and prestige of an established and recognized organization would aid them in accomplishing this as well as other purposes, this group voluntarily joined the Southern California Chapter of the Sierra Club and those who were not already members of the Sierra Club joined the Club.

By thus voluntarily becoming a section of the Southern Chapter and being accepted by the Chapter they automatically submitted themselves to its jurisdiction.

The nature and extent of this jurisdiction is to be found in the By-Laws of the Southern Chapter relating to sections of that body, which read as follows:

ARTICLE VIII—SECTIONS

Section A—Definition—A Section shall consist of a group of Sierra Club members primarily interested in some particular activity such as rock climbing, etc., or a group of members having similar interests.

Section B—Formation—A Section may be formed within this Chapter, upon application to and approval of the Executive Committee, for the purpose of developing some particular activity within the Chapter that is not at variance with the purposes of the Club and tends toward furthering the interests of the Chapter.

Section C—Government—A Section may be self-governing insofar as concerns their own activities, but must in all things conform to the By-Laws of this Chapter and the main Club and will at all times be subject to regulation by the Executive Committee.

The By-Laws of Sections must be approved by the Executive Committee.

Section D—Finances—All financial transactions must be reported to the Treasurer of the Chapter in a manner similar to that required of Committees.

No Section shall acquire property except in the name of the Sierra Club and with the approval of the Executive Committee.

Section E—Reports—Section Chairmen shall when possible attend regular meetings of the Executive Committee and make reports thereto.

There is, however, one aspect of the situation which requires additional consideration and action by the Board. The By-Laws of the Southern California Chapter are at all times subordinate to and must yield to the By-Laws and

Charter of the main organization. The By-Laws of the main Club have a special provision regarding lodges owned or operated in the Club's name and with its sanction. The ski huts of the Ski Mountaineers Section of the Southern California Chapter are on land leased from the federal government in the name of the Sierra Club and the main Club is directly responsible to the U. S. Forest Service for the lawful operation of these huts in accordance with the provisions of the respective leases. The Sierra Club has also contributed funds toward the construction of these huts. Members of the Riverside Chapter have assisted in the construction of these huts and participate in ski activities carried on there. For these reasons these "huts" come clearly within the definition of "lodges" subject to the jurisdiction of the main Club organization. The provisions of the By-Laws of the Sierra Club relating to the lodges controlled by it are as follows:

ARTICLE XI. Section 4. The Lodge Committee shall consist of five members, at least one of whom shall be a member of the Board of Directors. It shall have supervision of the lodges owned or operated by the Club, make suitable regulations for their use, and, subject to the funds allotted for the purpose, provide for their care and maintenance.

These hut-lodges come within the letter and spirit of these provisions, especially in view of the Club's primary responsibility as lessee of the federally owned ground on which they are situated and because of the further fact that the Riverside Chapter is equally interested, though with much smaller participation, in the carrying on of these activities.

Based on these facts the Board of Directors arrives at the following conclusions:

1. That the Ski Mountaineers Section is an integral part of the Southern California Chapter of the Sierra Club and as such subject to its jurisdiction as set forth in the By-Laws of that Chapter as above quoted. It should be noted in this connection that these By-Laws provide that, "A Section may be self-governing insofar as concerns their own activities . . . subject to regulation by the Executive Committee." The Board assumes that, because of this provision

giving a Section autonomy in its own affairs, the Southern California Chapter Executive Committee will not exercise its powers of supervisory regulation except in cases clearly demanding the same.

2. That the ski huts of the Ski Mountaineers Section shall be subject to the general control of the Club's Lodge Committee, and in order to most effectively care for and operate them they shall be directly administered by a sub-committee of the Lodge Committee, composed of local qualified members, which sub-committee shall report to the Lodge Committee, and the President is authorized to appoint such sub-committee after conference with the Lodge Committee.

3. That in order to carry into effect the foregoing conclusions and determinations of the Board, the Treasurer of the Club is directed to turn over to the Lodge Committee, for transmittal to the sub-committee above mentioned, that portion of the Ski Mountaineers funds arising directly out of and relating to ski-hut activities, and to pay over to the Southern California Chapter the balance of such funds, except such as relate to the Walter Mosauer fund, to be by the Southern California Chapter administered in accordance with its By-Laws. The Walter Mosauer fund shall be held in the Treasury of the Club as a trust to be expended in accordance with the terms of that trust whenever a decision is made as to the manner in which the trust shall be carried out.

Upon motion it was voted that the President appoint a committee of five* to review the by-laws of the Club and the various chapters, with a view to eliminating inconsistencies and conflicts that exist, co-ordinating the chapter by-laws with the Club by-laws, and bringing them into accord with present conditions.

It was further resolved that the two bonds now in the name of the "Southern California Chapter of the Sierra Club" be turned in and

*The following committee has since been appointed by Mr. McDuffie: Dr. Joel H. Hildebrand (chairman), Phil S. Bernays, Francis P. Farquhar, Weldon F. Heald and Walter A. Starr.

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new bonds secured in lieu thereof issued in the name of the Sierra Club.

It was voted that the directors and the delegates from the south be reimbursed for traveling expenses to the extent of \$30 each.

It was also voted that the December meeting of the Board of Directors be held on the first Saturday in the month, December 1, 1945.

WM. E. COLBY, *Secretary*

Federation Holds First Postwar Convention

The three-day meeting of the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs, beginning September 1, centered at the lodge of the California Alpine Club on Mount Tamalpais in Marin County. It was very timely in that the postwar problems of conservation, outdoor recreation, and such related subjects as the administration of national parks and forests could be considered as current and not just anticipated matters.

Most fortunately, Newton B. Drury, Director of the National Park Service, and Assistant Regional Forester Chester B. Morse were able to be present. Their remarks were received with close attention and great interest, as evinced by the questions asked them at the end of their speeches.

Director Drury made a very frank talk, going into present trends in park purposes, maintenance of existing wilderness regions, concessionaire problems, and new problems such as plane landing fields, grazing privileges, and road and trail extension. This was Newton Drury's first opportunity to be at a Federation convention, and he seemed to enjoy it as much as those who attended enjoyed the opportunity of meeting and hearing him.

Assistant Regional Forester Morse told about plans of the Forest Service to give better sanitation and fire protection in forest recreation areas than has been possible heretofore. He took time out to thank those outdoor clubs which had rendered valuable assistance in fire detection and fighting. He also explained that such closures as had been

made were only done when absolutely necessary for fire protection.

The meetings were conducted by Ed J. Hughes of the Mazamas of Portland, who had served a number of years as president. Besides delegates from the Berkeley Hiking Club, the California Alpine Club, the Contra Costa Hills Club and the Sierra Club, there was an increased attendance (due to lifting of gasoline restriction) from more distant organizations. Represented were: the Angora Club of Astoria, The Chemetkans from Salem, the Mazamas, the Obsidians from Eugene, the Trails Club of Oregon, the Trailfinders from Portland, and the Mountaineers of Seattle.

Resolutions enacted expressed the majority opinion on the following matters: maintenance of the wilderness, more adequate budgets for the National Park Service and the Forest Service, government of privately owned lands in national parks, and the reestablishment of ranger naturalist service in the parks. The detailed report of all the proceedings will appear in the *Western Outdoor Quarterly*.

The offer of the Contra Costa Hills Club to be host at the next Labor Day Convention was accepted. The probable location will be at Mendocino Woodlands.

New officers elected were Hilary Crawford of San Francisco, President; Harry James, Vice President for California; Betty Adamson of Berkeley, Corresponding Secretary, and Lydia Rahn of San Francisco, Secretary-Treasurer.

ARTHUR H. BLAKE

Members in the Service. VI.

This completes the available list of members in the service—those whose names have been received since List V was printed in the December 1944 *Sierra Club Bulletin*. We are sorry that we have not full, nor perhaps correct information on everyone. As the complete collected list of all the members who served will be published next year in the 1946 annual magazine number of the *Sierra Club Bulletin*, the editors ask that all corrections and additions be sent in to them as soon as possible.

U. S. Army

Babcock, David H., A.C.
Becker, Robert M., Mtn. Div.
Blake, Stephen, Cpl.
Bond, Robert E.
Bradley, David J., Lt., Med.
Bomberg, Harold, Cpl.
Cassidy, Frank E.
Childs, Barney
Chilton, Werner F., Lt.
Cox, Sherman J.
Crow, Steven G.
Deselms, Dale
Forrister, Walter G.
Foster, Leland D.
Guillou, Rene
Kammer, J. I.
Leovy, William A., Lt., Med.
L'Hommedieu, James H., Jr.,
Air
Manetta, Albert, Sgt.
McAndrew, William Peter
McIntosh, Donald K.,
Lt., T.C.
Meyer, Dean
Mowbray, M. V.
Olcott, Frank L., Jr.
O'Malley, Virginia Louise,
1st Lt., Med.
Parizek, Rudy W., Cpl.
Robinson, Richard H., Lt.
Saroni, Alfred B., Jr.

Scott, Peter D.
Seach, Robert W., S/Sgt.
Shiverick, Charles
Smith, Perrin F., Signal
Steer, Stanley J., Capt.
Stinchfield, Phillip R., Lt.
Tatum, Edward H., Jr., S/Sgt.
Wale, Robert Bruce
Wilson, James R.
Woodruff, William W.

U. S. Navy

Alexander, William D.
Blankenship, Cecil B.
Bradley, John P., Lt. (jg)
Chaney, Richard W., Ens.
D'Nelly, Gregg O.
Doyle, Doble M., Lt.
Evans, Harold W.
Fross, Roy, C.B.
Fuhring, John, Jr.
Gardner, Donald J., Lt. (jg)
Grandin, Henry, Jr.
Hollingshead, Richard S.
King, William G. III
Lewis, H. Robert
Ogg, Robert D., Ens.
Robinson, Edward B.
Schultz, Paul
Schwarzenbach, Christopher
Scott, Benson Graham
Templeton, George S., Tech.

Thibodeaux, Page J. III
Wurlitzer, Rymund, Ens.

U. S. Marine Corps

Hamilton, Clayton E.
Johnston, Randall B.
Peeke, Carroll, Jr.
Ruch, Roger

Army Nurse Corps

Rowell, Elizabeth, Lt.

Navy Nurse Corps

Steffan, Jean, Lt. (jg)

WAC

Stuck, Elaine

WAVES

Elton, Eunice, Ens.
Scholer, June B., Y 1/c

U. S. Maritime Service

Hudson, Richard A., Cadet
Lundborg, Bradford W.
Tulloch, Blair, Lt.
Wellington, Donald R.

Merchant Marine

Bishop, Roy F., Ens.
Glathe, John P.

A.R.C. Overseas

Dunshee, Mildred E.
LaGrange, Emeline
Lawrence, Elizabeth

John Muir Biographer Dies

Linnie Marsh Wolfe, author of *Son of the Wilderness*, the new biography of John Muir, died early in September, after a long illness. Mrs. Wolfe, who in 1938 edited the unpublished journals of John Muir under the title of *John of the Mountains*, was the

logical person to write a popular life of this remarkable man. It was fortunate for all of us that in spite of the handicap of her serious illness she was able to bring this latest work to completion.

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The Bulletin Bag

The vital work of the Save-the-Redwoods League is to continue for another year under the able leadership of Duncan McDuffie, who was re-elected president at the recent annual meeting.

Although the membership of the League was reported as now more than 10,000, many additional members are needed to carry on this important conservation program. The League is still accepting contributions towards the establishment of the National Tribute Grove.

The acquisition of Shell Beach on Tomales Bay, to save it for the public's benefit, is the immediate project of the Marin Conservation League. The League is well on its way towards realizing that goal, but all the help it can get is of importance. This is merely the first step of a larger project to acquire a series of beaches along the west coast of Tomales Bay with the aid of matching funds from the State.

Friends of Commander Francis D. Tappan will be interested to know that he has bought a beautiful farm in Virginia, and is starting the practice of law in Lynchburg. While we cannot understand his leaving California, all our good wishes go to him.

Some comment has been aroused by David Brower's article in the August Sierra Club Bulletin. A number of readers feel that in his argument he has not allowed for the fact that necessity rather than greed dictated the procedure of the operation on the wilderness in Italy. Undoubtedly he recognized that, and was using it only as an example of what can happen; but perhaps he might have added without weakening his case that our projected operations are even more to be censured because we could so easily lose our wilderness without even that drive of necessity.

Destructive forest and brush fires all over the State have aroused our apprehension and fear.

The threat to our magnificent redwoods and other fine forests has made us realize again—as we always do at this dangerous time of year, but even more so this particular year—that it is no idle fear. Pleas such as Stanley Jones made in the recent *Sierra Club Bulletin*, for increased appropriations for fire control, are based on stark, stern facts.

Photographs by Cedric Wright, taken on the 1945 Young Lake Base Camp Trip, will be shown at the clubrooms, beginning the middle of November. Following this exhibit, photographs of Alaska by Paul J. Zinke will be shown.

Forests play an important part in the future setup of the United Nations. In December 1943, the United Nations Interim Commission on Food and Agriculture included forestry and primary forest products in the scope of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations. In March 1944 a Technical Committee on Forestry and Primary Forest Products was established, with Henry S. Graves, Dean Emeritus of the Yale School of Forestry, and former Chief of the U. S. Forest Service, as chairman.

This Committee has just issued a report on the world forest situation and its proposals regarding the functions of FAO. As these findings are so important in the development of world peace and prosperity, the October issue of *American Forests* carries the first part of this report complete, which deals with the world's forests and the raw material they yield. It is worth reading.

*Admirers of Jam Crack Joe may be glad to know that reprints of this ballad as it appeared in last year's *Sierra Club Bulletin* with the line drawings by Blanche Stallings, are available for 10c at the Club office, 1050 Mills Tower.*

Clair Tappaan Lodge Plans for Ski Season

A reservation office for the ski season at Clair Tappaan Lodge is to be opened in December at the Jim Davis Sport Shop, 2226 Telegraph Avenue, Berkeley 4, Phone BERkeley 0635. Reservations must be paid for in advance at the following rates:

Commissary: \$1.60 per day
(breakfast 50c, lunch 40c, dinner 70c)

Lodging: 60c per night
(if for Saturday night only, 90c)
(guests of members 50c higher)

Short Week End: \$2.50
(Saturday dinner through Sunday lunch)

Long Week End: \$3.75
(Friday night through Sunday lunch)

Stays of Six Days or More: \$2.00 per day
Ski Patrol and First Aid Fund: 10c on each

It is unlikely that any guest non-member can be permitted during the Christmas-New Year week due to the number of members wishing to use the lodge. As the operation of the lodge must depend on the cooperation of those using it, each visitor is expected to undertake his share of housekeeping duties.

Any members wishing to visit the lodge this fall may make reservations by writing Mrs. Gertrude Zinke, c/o Sierra Club, San Francisco.

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACTS OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AND MARCH 3, 1933, of *Sierra Club Bulletin* published bimonthly at San Francisco, California, for October 1, 1945.

State of California }
City and County of San Francisco } ss.

Before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared Virginia Ferguson, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that she is the business manager of the *Sierra Club Bulletin*, and that the following is, to the best of her knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management, etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, as amended by the Act of March 3, 1933, embodied in section 537, Postal Laws and Regulations, to-wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are: Publisher, Sierra Club, 1050 Mills Tower, San Francisco, 4; Editor, Francis P. Farquhar, 1050 Mills Tower, San Francisco, 4; Managing Editor, none; Business Manager, Virginia Ferguson, 1050 Mills Tower, San Francisco, 4.

2. That the owner is: Sierra Club (a corporation), 1050 Mills Tower, San Francisco, 4; No stockholders. Officers: Duncan McDuffie, President; William E. Colby, Secretary; Walter L. Huber, Treasurer, San Francisco.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: None.

VIRGINIA FERGUSON, Business Manager.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 19th day of September, 1945.

VIOLET NEUBURG, Notary Public.

(SEAL)

(My commission expires January 3, 1946)

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